(d) and (e) RBI does not maintain information on number of workers that have been rendered unemployed due to sickness/lockout and the amount of revenue loss per year due to these SSI units. However, the amount outstanding with these sick SSI units as at the end of March, 2002 was Rs. 4.31 crores.

Mission to Moon

2694. SHRIB. J. PANDA:

MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether ISRO has planned a mission around the orbit of Moon by the year 2007;

(b) whether certain foreign countries have evinced interest to join this mission, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas where the space research is being focussed; and

(d) whether the country possess a launch vehicle capability for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) An Unmanned Moon Mission has been planned for 2008-09.

(b) Yes, Sir. Interest has been shown by the European Space Agency (ESA) and Canadian Space Agency (CSA). However, details have not yet been worked out.

(c) It is proposed to carry out high-resolution remote sensing of the Moon in visible, near infrared, low energy x-rays and high energy x-ray regions. This would enable us to study the origin and chemical evolution of the moon, its geological features, impact phenomena, survey of its precious resources such as Helium -Three, which is considered to be a potential source of cleanest energy, with minimum residual radio-activity.

(d) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to use the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) for the Mission.

Unmanned spaceship to Moon

2695. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

SHRI RAJEEVSHUKLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :